

LINCOLN-WAY COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL
DISTRICT #210
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
January 14, 2010
7:00 P.M.

A. Routine Matters:

President David Izzo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Central High School Boardroom.

After reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Izzo asked that roll call be taken.

Roll call was taken. Members present were: Mr. Christopher Kosel; Mrs. Christine Glatz; Dr. Arvid Johnson; Mr. Kevin Molloy; Mr. James Gast; Mr. Ronald Kokal; and Mr. David Izzo. A quorum was established. Members absent were: None. Also present were: Dr. Lawrence A. Wyllie, Superintendent; Dr. Thomas Eddy, Deputy Superintendent; Dr. Sharon Michalak, Assistant Superintendent; Mr. Ronald Sawin, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Brenda Jensen, Principal, East High School; Dr. Michael Gardner, Principal, North High School; Dr. Monica Schmitt, Principal, West High School; Mr. John Pehle, District Director of Technology; Dr. Brian Murphy, Director of Transportation; Mrs. Mary Harrison, Director of Special Services; Mr. Tim Reilly, District Director of Instruction; Mrs. Stacy Holland, District Director of Community Relations; Mrs. Charla Brautigam, Assistant Director of Community Relations; Mrs. Linda Lopez, Executive Director of the Foundation; Mr. Tom Finnegan; Mr. Eric Byar; Mrs. Michelle Maldonado; Mr. Dave Gallagher; Mr. Ted Westerberg; Mr. Dan Carney; Mr. Jason Kircher; Ms. Gina Kenney, Southtown Star Newspaper; Ms. Kristin Moore, 22nd Century Media; Ms. Karen Haave, Russell Publications; and Mrs. Susan Fraser, Assistant to the Superintendent.

Mr. Izzo and Dr. Wyllie welcomed the guests in attendance at the meeting.

B. Public Comment:

Mr. Jeff Boubelik, Executive Director of the Frankfort Park District, as well as Mr. Tom Barz, President of the Frankfort Park District, were on hand to discuss the Limited Tax Rate Referendum that will be placed on the February 2, 2010 ballot for voters approval. This action will be taken because the 1995 referendum bond that was approved by the voters for the purchase and renovation of the Founder Center and the purchase and Phase I development of Commissioners Park is being paid off. With the retirement of this bond, the tax rate would drop 3 cents from .202 to .170. This is a one time opportunity to keep the 3 cents tax rate for capital development without raising the tax rate and with no new taxes. This can be accomplished by requesting a 3 cent increase in the District's Limiting Rate. A positive vote by the residents would preserve and maintain approximately \$250,000 annually for capital expenditures, park improvements,

and maintenance for the park district. Mr. Boubelik and Mr. Barz thanked the board and administration for the opportunity to speak and asked for the board's support. On behalf of the Board of Education, Mr. Izzo voiced his support to the Frankfort Park District and wished them well on February 2nd.

C. Consent Agenda:

Mr. Kokal moved, seconded by Mr. Gast, that the consent agenda be approved as presented: the December 10, 2009 regular meeting minutes; and the December 18, 2009 payroll in the amount of \$2,210,944.66; the January 1, 2010 payroll in the amount of \$2,168,995.81; and the January 15, 2010 payroll in the amount of \$2,117,124.24. Roll call taken; all voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

D. Awards, Presentations, and/or Recognition:

Student Achievement – Social Science

Dr. Michalak introduced Lincoln-Way High School Social Science department chairs, Mr. Tom Finnegan, Lincoln-Way Central; Mr. Eric Byar, Lincoln-Way East; Mrs. Michelle Maldonado, Lincoln-Way North; and Mr. Dave Gallagher, Lincoln-Way West, who were on hand to discuss the Dual Credit/Joliet Junior College (JJC) options that are now available within the Social Science courses. Mr. Byar stated the overall excitement within the department to work with JJC to provide this opportunity to students. Mr. Tom Finnegan reported that this year, the *Introduction to Criminal Justice* class provides an amazing opportunity for students to earn six hours of college credit. Central student Chad Podkulski stated his experience in the class as interesting, fun and very interactive. It has helped him to choose to pursue a career as an attorney, something he had never thought about until he took the class. Lincoln-Way East student Crysta Price also expressed that the interaction in the class has helped her choose her future career path as an attorney. The fact that she can earn transferable college credit hours is also a plus. Lincoln-Way North senior student Mike Ronan stated his enthusiasm for the interactive class that has helped him choose his career path next year in law enforcement. He thanked the board for offering the course to students. Mrs. Michelle Maldonado reported that the Social Science department will offer several classes that will receive Joliet Junior College Dual Credit next school year:

- Honors Western Civilization – 2 semesters – 6 credit hours
- AP American History – 2 semesters – 6 credit hours
- AP Government – 1 semester – 3 credit hours
- AP Psychology – 2 semesters – 3 credit hours
- Introduction to Sociology – 1 semester – 3 credit hours
- Introduction to the Criminal Justice System – 1 semester – 6 credit hours

Mr. Dave Gallagher concluded the report stating that the department is very happy to offer dual credit courses with JJC. They will continue to work with JJC and Dr. Michalak to offer more opportunities for students to earn dual credit.

Student Council Presidents

Mr. Dan Carney, East Student Council President, reported that planning for the Turnabout Dance in February with a theme of “Under the Sea” is well underway. The sophomore class will be sponsoring a kickball game – teachers versus students – to help subsidize their junior prom. Junior students are currently running the *Griffin Gourmet*, a new venue that offers hot beverages to students. Proceeds in part will be used to subsidize prom this year. Details about this year’s prom will be shown in an informational video to all junior and senior students.

In the absence of Miss Urvi Shah, Mr. Jason Kircher, North Student Council Executive Board Vice-President, reported that the Council will host a toy drive to benefit Pediatric Oncology. Other upcoming events include the T.W.I.R.P. dance, and a talent show to benefit Dollars for Scholars and the Student Council fund.

E. Action Items:

Presentation of Outstanding Invoices

Mr. Molloy moved, seconded by Mrs. Glatz, that the board approve the January 6, 2010 list of bills in the amount of \$2,383,232.87 as presented. Roll call taken; all voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Personnel Report

Dr. Eddy submitted the personnel report as follows:

a. Leaves:

Mary Beth Deady, Business Instructor, East and North High Schools, is requesting a two-week FMLA leave following her six-week maternity leave. She is also requesting a parental leave for the 2010-2011 school year.

Wendy Burkhardt, Secretary, Transportation Department, is requesting a two-month intermittent FMLA for January and February 2010.

Dr. Eddy recommended the board approve the requests for leave as presented. Mrs. Glatz moved, seconded by Mr. Kokal, that the board approve the requests for leave as presented. All in favor voted Aye; none opposed. Motion carried.

b. Resignations:

None.

Retirements:

Peggy Nowak, Social Worker, East High School, is requesting to retire in June 2014, under Early Retirement Board Option "A".

Jennifer Mudrock, Mathematics Instructor, Central High School, is requesting to retire in June 2014, under Early Retirement Board Option "A".

Nancy Campbell, Special Services Instructor, East High School, is requesting to retire in June 2014, under Early Retirement Board Option "A".

Debbie Provencher, Career and Technology Instructor, East and North High Schools, is requesting to retire in June 2014, under Early Retirement Board Option "A".

Dr. Eddy recommended the board approve the requests for retirement as presented. Mr. Kosel moved, seconded by Dr. Johnson, that the board approve the retirement requests as presented. Roll call taken; all voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

c. Employment:

Lynne Gehrke, District Payroll Clerk, has successfully completed her probationary period and is recommended for full-time status.

Dr. Eddy recommended the board approve the employment recommendation as presented. Mr. Kosel moved, seconded by Mr. Molloy, that the board approve the employment recommendation as presented. Roll call taken; all voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Bus Lease Bids

Mr. Sawin reviewed the bus lease bidding process, and then recommended the board accept the bid from Midwest Transit for the lease of thirty 2011 Type C Conventional School Buses, for a purchase price of \$9,952 per bus per year for five years, as presented. After some discussion Mr. Kokal moved, seconded by Dr. Johnson, that the board award the bid to Midwest Transit as presented. Roll call taken; all voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried. (ATTACHMENT)

F. Informational Items:

Report of the Lincoln-Way Area Special Education District #843 Governing Board Meeting Held December 15, 2009

Mr. Gast referred to a handout that showed the proposed design and construction strategy of the Transition House. He asked that the board approve the proposed design and construction for the transition house to a maximum amount of \$470,000, as well as District 210's portion of \$64,000. After some discussion,

Mr. Kokal moved, seconded by Dr. Johnson, that the board approve the design and construction of the Transition House as presented. Roll call taken; all voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried.

Legislative Report

Mr. Sawin reported that SB315 – “Race to the Top” legislation was passed by both houses and sent to the Governor for approval. His quick approval is expected since Illinois must submit its application to the federal Department of Education by January 19th.

The Illinois State Board of Education is preparing its fiscal year 2011 budget. At this early stage, it appears that they will recommend that the “Foundation Level” for General State Aid remain at \$6,119. This same level will result in District 210 losing almost \$1.7 million in State Aid.

Policies – First Reading

Dr. Wyllie presented policies for first reading.

Goal #1, Objective D

Dr. Wyllie reviewed Goal #1, Objective D, which reads, “Provide opportunities for students to improve their academic achievement through curriculum, instructional methods, and staff development. Implement an online course management system to provide students with online activities to support the classroom learning environment.” Mr. Pehle discussed the implementation of a course management system called **Moodle**, which allows students to log into a secure environment and engage in threaded conversations, read documents and bulletins posted by the teacher, as well as having “real time” chat experiences with the teacher and classmates. To date, more than twenty teachers have requested that their students access the system, representing more than 30 different curricular strands, and 600 students. This conservative implementation allows the district to monitor the system to ensure both performance and security. Mr. Pehle reported positive feedback by parents.

Goal #4, Objective A

Dr. Wyllie reviewed Goal #4, Objective A, which reads, “Complete the expansion and renovation of the district’s facilities. Oversee the opening of Lincoln-Way West. Prepare closeout documents for \$225 million referendum package.” Dr. Wyllie referred to the construction closeout memo, along with attachments and an article he recently wrote that appeared in the Lincoln-Way Sun Newspaper. (ATTACHMENT) Mrs. Holland presented a copy of the dedication program and gave a short report on the activities of the day.

Foundation Report

Mrs. Lopez reported that current fundraising efforts include the 2010 Calendar Campaign, as well as the 2010 Partner Program. The Foundation Dinner Gala will be held on Saturday, February 13.

Community Relations Report

Mrs. Holland reminded board members of the following upcoming events:

- January 20 – Realtor, Banker, and Elected Official Luncheon – West High School – 11:30 a.m.
- January 27 – Realtor, Banker, and Elected Official Luncheon – East High School – 11:30 a.m.
- January 30 – Mid-Year Graduation – Lincoln-Way North High School

Superintendent's District Report

Dr. Wyllie reviewed the *Pride of Lincoln-Way* (see attachment), congratulating the Central High School Bridge Building participants, as well as the top five winners.

Congratulations to the East High School Bridge Building participants and to Nicholas Rankovich for taking first place.

Dr. Wyllie congratulated North High School students Nat Monaikul, Katie Debelak, and Doug Blakeman for participating in the Solo Scholastic Bowl Tournament. Special congratulations to Nat Monaikul for finishing as tournament champion in the Pyramidal Math category, as well as in the top three in two other math categories.

Dr. Wyllie congratulated West High School Political Science Club members for their successful book drive to benefit a school in Northern Uganda.

Dr. Wyllie congratulated the Central High School boys' varsity basketball team for their performance in the Medieval Classic Tournament.

Congratulations to the East High School girls' varsity basketball team for taking the championship at the Medieval Classic Tournament.

Dr. Wyllie congratulated the North High School boys' varsity basketball team for taking 2nd place in their first tournament championship game at the Medieval Classic Tournament.

Congratulations to the West High School girls' varsity basketball team for their performance in the Medieval Classic Tournament and for their recent 5-0 conference record.

Congratulations to the Central High School students whose artwork was displayed at the Vogt Art Show.

Congratulations to East High School students Bridgette Wilhelmi and Faith Damm whose artwork was selected to receive Awards of Excellence at a high school art exhibition at Joliet Junior College.

Congratulations to North High School music students Tyler Holstrom, Andrew Smit, Mike Harvey, Eric Rehm, and Melanie Graff who were selected to participate in the Illinois All-State Music Conference on January 28-30 in Peoria.

Congratulations to the West High School students who are among the cast of the winter play *Atalanta*.

Dr. Wyllie pointed out several items of interest, including the Central High School College Handbook, and the West Gazette.

Dr. Wyllie asked that the board approve a request from Stacy Williams-Jackson, Lincoln-Way Central Music Department Chair, for the Lincoln-Way Central Jazz Band to travel to West Lafayette, Indiana, on January 22-23, 2010, to participate in the Purdue Jazz Festival. Mrs. Glatz moved, seconded by Dr. Johnson, that the board approve the request as presented. All in favor voted Aye; none opposed. Motion carried.

Dr. Wyllie referred board members to a document regarding the *Articles of Agreement of the Lincoln-Way Area Special Education District #843*. He specifically referred to three options under section 3.03 – Withdrawal of Membership. He asked board members to review these options and make their recommendation for approval at the January 28th board meeting.

Dr. Wyllie proposed several dates for the annual Goals Meeting and asked board members to check their calendars.

Correspondence

Mr. Izzo reminded board members of the Joint Board Meeting being held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010.

Mr. Izzo discussed the National School Board Association Annual Conference being held April 10-12 in Chicago.

G. Other Business:

None.

H. Adjournment:

Mr. Kokal moved, seconded by Mrs. Glatz, that the board meeting be adjourned. Roll call taken; all in favor voted Aye. None opposed. Motion carried. The board meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

David A. Izzo, President

Christopher A. Kosel, Secretary